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the discontented and become an easy prey to the teachings of socialism. The statistics of all the larger cities of Germany prove that the social democratic element is weakest in those whose growth has been mostly influenced by natural increase, and largest in those which have gained mainly through migration from the country. The almost entire absence, too, of socialism in the large English cities seems to be due to similar causes; for in England, where 72 per cent. of the nation are urbanites already, migration to the cities is almost lacking.

On the contrary, London, Birmingham, and Manchester show a loss from emigration, and in Liverpool, Leeds, and Sheffield, the gain by immigration is considerably inferior to that by excess of births. From these and similar statistics the author concludes that the danger of overpopulation, namely, of scarcity of work for all, is mainly a problem of the country; that the cities, having a much lesser birthrate, would be hardly overpopulated if they were left alone, and that all legislation intended to remedy the evils of overpopulation ought to encourage, on one hand, the restriction of the rural birthrate, and on the other, measures for the employment in the country of those who now flock to the cities, increasing the social and political evils of modern civilisation.

M. K. G.

Le Maroc agricole. Rapport adressé au ministre de l'agriculture.

Par Mad. C. du Gast, chargée de mission au Maroc. Tome I: Le Fahs. 294 pp. Imprimerie Nationale, Paris, 1908.

The book, which describes the agricultural possibilities of the district of Fahs, or the neighbourhood of Tangier, is the first volume of a guide for prospective settlers in Morocco. The climate, soil, and water supply of the country, as well as the abundance of cheap and good help, ought to make Morocco much more an agricultural country than it has been, owing evidently to the unsettled political conditions. The recent diplomatic events having improved the chances of the foreigners, especially the French, in that country, the author wishes to supply the needed information for those who contemplate exploiting its natural resources. With this purpose in view she has travelled through the whole country, on horseback, in every direction, visited every village, and examined both the soils and the inhabitants everywhere; the result is a specific report on the titles of property, systems of partnership, lease, and purchase, weights, measures, money, taxes, customs, soils, and every kind of plant or animal that could possibly be raised there, a regular cyclopedia of farming in Morocco, whose utility will not be limited to Frenchmen and will certainly render great services in opening up that country whenever the time may be ripe.

The geographical foundations of the report contain brief descriptions of the relief, rivers, forests, climate, and roads, and are illustrated by an original map of the district which, together with those that are to accompany the following volumes, will enrich the existing maps of Morocco by much newer detail. The book is a fine example of the good which missionaries can do in their chosen fields if they include the worldly interests of these regions in the range of their observations.

M. K. G.

Italian Highways and Byways from a Motor Car. By Francis

Miltoun. ix and 380 pp., Pictures by Blanche McManus, Maps and Index. L. C. Page & Co., Boston, 1909. \$3.

The unknown and unattainable always attract. So the traveller, speeding by train over the beaten routes of Italy, experiences an eager desire to visit and

explore the castellated hill towns which ever and anon break the monotony of the landscapes, and sighs as he realizes his inability to gratify his wish.

The automobile has gone far to banish these futile longings. One is no longer dependent on vehicles which run only on definite lines and at stated hours. The motorist is lord of his own movements and bound by no time table. He can, like the wind, go where he listeth, discover nooks and corners unknown to Cook and his tourist, and is sometimes moved to share his discoveries with those unfortunates who possess not motors and are obliged to remain at home.

Such an one is Mr. Francis Miltoun, who gives us his impressions of Italian Highways and Byways as seen from his motor. His book serves divers purposes. It supplies the motorist with many suggestions as to routes, confirmed by sundry maps, indicates the good roads and warns against the bad, specifies the bake shops where hunger can be reasonably as well as satisfactorily appeased, not neglecting to mention high grade hotels in the cities, where the author has been well entreated.

But it is by no means a mere guide book. Mr. Miltoun has a keen eye for the picturesque and his descriptions are vivid and lifelike. He deals as well with the men and manners of Italy, going, with minute detail, into the characteristics of the peasant, the bourgeois and the official, and is not above telling us their several rates of expenditure and their proclivities in food and drink. He is evidently well versed in historic lore and supplies to many a halting place its appropriate reminiscence and legend.

The book thus covers a wide field and though its subject is hackneyed, succeeds in presenting it in new and varied forms. It will be useful to the motorist, suggestive to the tourist and pleasant reading for those who are forced to form their impressions of Italy at their own firesides.

T. M. A.

Essai sur la Constitution géologique de la Guyane hollandaise (District occidental). Par H. Van Cappel. 181 pp., and Map. Ch. Beranger, Paris, 1907. fr. 3.50.

The region studied by the author lies in the basins of the Nickerie and Corentyn rivers, western Dutch Guiana. He had already described the district, in its general features, in his book "*Au travers des forêts vierges de la Guyane hollandaise*" (1905). In the present work, he gives an historical sketch of the geological exploration of Dutch New Guinea which is followed by a chapter on the topographical features of the western region which he especially studied. He discusses the geology of this region in pp. 25-84, the petrographic results in pp. 85-177 and adds a few notes on the meteorological observations, with a table of temperatures in Sept.-Oct., 1900. The archæan rocks are granite and dolomite with intrusions of pyroxenic amphibolite and gabbro. He found few traces of paleozoic rocks and nothing of the Cretaceous. The younger formations consist chiefly of the alluvial deposits of lakes and rivers, sandstones and conglomerate. The writer gives much attention to the effects of rock weathering in that tropical region. His map shows in colours the geology along the Nickerie, Corentyn and Fallawatra rivers.

The Empire of the East. A Simple Account of Japan as it was, is and will be. By H. B. Montgomery xii and 307 pp., Illustrations and Index. A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, 1909.

This is not a mere traveller's book. Its author has had an opportunity to view the life of the Japanese from within and to form careful judgments on